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young justice

Unhappy Homecoming

AS SEEN ON: CN CARTOON NETWORK™

GREG WEISMAN
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DCNATION.COM

ATLANTIC OCEAN
SEPTEMBER 4, 13:26 UTC-2

WHEW.

AHEM.

young justice

UNDER THE SURFACE...

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MOUNT JUSTICE
SEPTEMBER 5, 19:12 EDT

"ARE YOU SURE YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT?

...WE DON'T HAVE TO HEAD HOME RIGHT AWAY.

I AM FINE AND WILL SOON RETURN *HOME* MYSELF.

RECOGNIZED: ROBIN-B-ZERO-ONE, KID FLASH-B-ZERO-THREE, ARTEMIS-B-ZERO-SEVEN.

I AM RETURNING TO *ATLANTIS* NOW AND WAS WONDERING IF YOU BOTH WOULD CARE TO ACCOMPANY ME.

WE'D LOVE TO! I MEAN, *I* WOULD...

THOUGHT YOU JUST WENT.

YES, BUT I NEED--I *WANT*-- TO RETURN MORE OFTEN.

SO WHY WAIT TO ASK UNTIL *AFTER* THE OTHERS TOOK OFF?

I DO NOT LIKE TO PLAY GAMES...

...BUT OUR FRIENDS WOULD NOT DO WELL WITH THE *EXTREME PRESSURE* AT THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN.

IT SEEMED KINDER *NOT* TO MAKE THE OFFER IN THEIR PRESENCE.

WHATEVER. LET'S GO.

ACTUALLY...

"... I THOUGHT WE COULD TAKE THE SCENIC ROUTE."

SHAYERIS
SEPTEMBER 6, 01:31 UTC-2

WELCOME TO MY BIRTHPLACE...

THE ATLANTEAN CITY-STATE OF SHAYERIS.

IT'S... SPECTACULAR!

ARE YOU... SHORTER?

IT'S THE *PRESSURE.* EVEN THE *BIO-SHIP* IS SMALLER AT THIS *DEPTH.*

I HOPE YOU EXPERIENCE NO DISCOMFORT...?

I'M FINE. HONEST!

GOOD. I HAVE STOCKED THE HOLD WITH MORE APPROPRIATE ATTIRE AND *RE-BREATHERS.*

NONE FOR ME, THANKS.

GILLS. NICE TOUCH.

THIS IS MY PARENTS' HOME. MY HOME.

KALDUR, YOU LOOK THIN.*

MOTHER, PLEASE...

SHA'LAIN'A, LET THE BOY BREATHE.

*TRANSLATED FROM THE ATLANTEAN.

MY FRIENDS, THESE ARE MY PARENTS, **SHA'LAIN'A** AND **CALVIN DURHAM.**

MOTHER. FATHER. MEET SUPERBOY AND MISS MARTIAN.

PLEASE, CALL ME **M'GANN.**

YOU SPEAK ATLANTEAN!

NOT REALLY. BUT MY **PSYCHIC** ABILITIES ENABLE ME TO TRANSLATE AND COMMUNICATE.

G-GNOMES **PROGRAMMED** ME TO SPEAK ATLANTEAN.

I UNDERSTAND YOU--YET HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THAT MEANS...

SON, YOU VISIT **POSEIDONIS** THIS TRIP?

FIRST THING IN THE MORNING.

THEN BE CAREFUL. THERE ARE **RUMORS...**

"...THAT TROUBLE BREWS IN THE CAPITAL."

POSEIDONIS
SEPTEMBER 6, 08:06 UTC-2

KALDUR, IT IS AN HONOR TO FINALLY MEET YOUR FRIENDS AND TEAMMATES.

THE HONOR IS ALL OURS, QUEEN MERA.

I LIVED ON MARS MY WHOLE LIFE WITHOUT EVER MEETING A MEMBER OF THE ROYAL FAMILY!

THERE'S A CERTAIN WISDOM IN INACCESSIBILITY...

...WHEN THE QUEEN CARRIES THE HEIR TO THE THRONE.

ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE PRINCE ORM, MY OVERLY PROTECTIVE BROTHER-IN-LAW.

HOW CAN I BE ANYTHING ELSE, WHILE MY BROTHER IS OFF PLAYING AQUAMAN?

KING ORIN'S WORK WITH THE JUSTICE LEAGUE IS ANYTHING BUT A GAME, MY PRINCE.

OF COURSE. STILL, I AM GLAD YOU AND YOUR FELLOW CHAMPIONS ARE HERE, KALDUR'AHM...

THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS OF UNREST...

"...ORIGINATING AT THE CONSERVATORY OF SORCERY."

M'GANN M'ORZZ. SUPERBOY. THESE ARE SOME OF MY FORMER CLASSMATES...

...RONAL...

...BLUBBER...

...LORI LEMARIS...

...LA'GAAN...

...AND NANAUE SHA'ARK.

THAT'S KING SHA'ARK, CHUM. AND DON'T YOU FORGET IT!

YOU'RE ALL SO DIFFERENT...

MILLENNIA AGO, ATLANTEANS WERE **ALL** SURFACE-DWELLING HUMANS...UNTIL THE CONTINENT SANK.

BY NECESSITY, OUR ANCESTORS USED **SCIENCE** AND **SORCERY** TO **ADAPT** TO LIFE BENEATH THE WAVES.

SINCE THEN, THE POPULACE OF EACH **CITY-STATE** HAS **EVOLVED** ALONG ITS OWN COURSE.

NOW, ATLANTIS IS A CONTINENT OF **DIVERSITY**...

...AND OUR CAPITAL, **POSEIDONIS**, IS THE MOST DIVERSE OF ALL...

...WHILE THE **CONSERVATORY** DRAWS THE BEST AND THE BRIGHTEST FROM THROUGHOUT ATLANTIS.

IT'S **WONDERFUL!** MY WORLD COULD TAKE LESSONS. **SHOULD** TAKE LESSONS.

AND ARE YOU TWO **TYPICAL** OF THE SURFACE?

NOT EXACTLY...

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED MERMAIDS!

WHAT DO YOU THINK?!

I AM... FLATTERED?

NOW, YOU'RE JUST SHOWING OFF.

I LIKE IT.

WELL, THIS HAS BEEN... CHARMING...

...BUT I SHOULD GO.

WHAT'S THE MATTER, CHUM? FEELING OUTNUMBERED?

SO WHAT'S IT REALLY LIKE ON THE SURFACE?

OTHER THAN DRIER.

AND TASTIER. KNOW WHAT I MEAN, CHUM?

KALDUR!

M'GANN. SUPERBOY. THESE ARE MY DEAREST FRIENDS, TULA AND GARTH.

YES, ANY FRIEND OF KALDUR'S...

YOU ARE BOTH WELCOME IN ATLANTIS...

...IS A FRIEND OF OURS!

SO THAT'S WHY HE BROUGHT US...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

KALDUR'S IN LOVE WITH TULA. IT RADIATES OFF HIM IN WAVES.

BUT SHE'S WITH GARTH. AND KALDUR COULDN'T BARE TO FACE THEM ALONE...

TOPO...?

TOPO, I WANT YOU TO MEET MY FRIENDS...

UH... MAYBE SOME OTHER TIME...

WHAT IS THIS?

MRAZ

TOPO! WHO DID THIS TO YOU?!

IT DOES NOT CONCERN YOU, KALDUR'AHM.

AH, SQUIDBOY'S CHUM. AND CHUM GETS WHAT IT DESERVES.

SWALLOWED.

I COULDN'T READ THOSE MARKINGS...?

THEY ARE ANCIENT ATLANTEAN RUNES...

SPELLING WHAT?

"IMPURE."

BAR HARBOR
SEPTEMBER 6, 06:01 EDT

YOU HAVE A VISITOR, *MR. LOCKHART.*

WINDWARD HOME
ASSISTED LIVING

THAT'S *DOCTOR* LOCKHART. AND I DON'T HAVE VISITORS.

NO NEED TO BE *CRANKY,* JIM.

WE'RE *LEAVING.*

DON'T BE ABSURD. I DON'T KNOW YOU.

AND YET YOU COME WHEN I CALL...

LOOK, SON, I'M AN OLD MAN. I CAN'T RUN OFF WITH EVERY *STRANGER* WHO ASKS--

NOT A STRANGER. DEFINITELY *NOT* YOUR SON. AND I *WASN'T* ASKING.

WAIT... MY WALKER...

YOU WON'T NEED IT.

POSEIDONIS
SEPTEMBER 6, 19:27 UTC-2

SPEAK TO ME OF TOPO...

HE WAS A VICTIM OF THE PURISTS...

...THEY CONSIDER THEMSELVES THE DIRECT DESCENDENTS OF THE ORIGINAL ATLANTEANS--

--AND ATTEMPT TO SCARE ANYONE THEY CONSIDER IMPURE INTO LEAVING POSEIDONIS.

WHAT QUALIFIES AS IMPURE? YOU ALL BREATHE WATER.

TULA AND I APPEAR HUMAN-- AND THUS ARE CONSIDERED PURE...

BUT MY VISIBLE GILLS RENDER ME IMPURE.

BUT ONLY BY THE MOST RIGID AND RIDICULOUS STANDARDS!

BUT I WAS JUST HERE, AND THERE WAS NO WORD OF THIS...?

THE OLD PREJUDICES HAVE ALWAYS LURKED UNDER THE SURFACE, KALDUR...

BUT THE CLASH BETWEEN SKIN AND SCALES, FLESH AND FINS--

--HAS ESCALATED RAPIDLY AND SEEMINGLY WITHOUT CAUSE INTO VIOLENCE AND INTIMIDATION.

LET GO OF ME!!

WE KNOW YOU ARE PURISTS!

YOU CAN'T HIDE BEHIND YOUR ROBES AND HOODS!

DO WE APPEAR TO HIDE, BARBARIAN?!

YOUR KIND ALREADY INFECTS TRITONIS, NANAUVE, NEPTUNOS, LEMURIA, SHAYERIS...

EVEN CRASTINUS!!

SHA'ARK! WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH RONAL?!

PREPARING SUPPER.

YOU WILL LET HIM GO!

CAREFUL, EARCHER! COME BETWEEN A SHARK AND HIS MEAL, AND YOU BECOME THE MEAL!

TRY ME, INSTEAD. YOU'LL BREAK YOUR TEETH... CHUM.

WHO STARTED THIS?!

MY FRIENDS AND I WERE MINDING OUR OWN BUSINESS WHEN THE FISH-HEADS ATTACKED US!

THEY DID!!

AND WHAT WAS TOPO DOING WHEN YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS ATTACKED HIM?!

PLEASE, LEAVE ME OUT OF THIS...

YOU CANNOT KNOW THAT WAS US!

BUT IF YOUR KIND LIKE NOT YOUR TREATMENT HERE, YOU ARE WELCOME TO LEAVE POSEIDONIS!

THIS IS NOT YOUR CONCERN, EARTHER.

BUT IT IS OURS!

C'MON, CHUM. LET'S SWIM.

ATLANTIC OCEAN
SEPTEMBER 6, 20:09 UTC-2

IF KALDUR AND HIS FRIENDS HAD NOT INTERVENED...

...THOSE FISH-HEADS WOULD ALL HAVE BEEN MARKED IMPURE! ESPECIALLY LEMARIS!

THEN IT IS FORTUNATE AQUALAD DID INTERVENE...

...FOR ANONYMITY IS THE PURISTS' GREATEST WEAPON. PUT ON YOUR HOODS, MY CHILDREN!

THEY ARE TO YOU WHAT NEPTUNE'S TRIDENT IS TO THE OCEAN-MASTER!

THE HOUR IS CLOSE AT HAND. GOOD KING ORIN IS AWAY...

...AND BY THE TIME HE RETURNS, POSEIDONIS WILL BE **PURGED** OF THE IMPURE!

AND SINCE THE KING HIMSELF IS **PURE**, HE WILL SOON RECOGNIZE THE **WISDOM** OF OUR ACTIONS.

BUT WHAT OF KALDUR'AHM AND HIS SURFACE-DWELLERS?

FEAR THEM NOT. BUT BE READY.

AND SO, **DEPART**...

QUEENS
SEPTEMBER 6, 20:13 EDT

QUEENS
MEMORIAL CEMETERY

"WE SHOULDN'T BE DOING THIS. I SHOULDN'T BE DOING THIS...

I KNEW *DANETTE*. I SHOULDN'T BE *DESECRATING* HER--

DANETTE REILLY
HEROINE
1924-1945

KLUNK

OPEN HER UP.

AT LEAST *HELP!* I'M *NINETY-ONE* YEARS OLD!

YET REMARKABLY WELL-PRESERVED...

...AND GIVEN THAT OUR MISS REILLY HAS BEEN IN THE GROUND FOR OVER *THREE SCORE YEARS*--

--I'D SAY *SHE'S* REMARKABLY WELL-PRESERVED TOO.

POSEIDONIS
SEPTEMBER 6, 23:45 EDT

SWEET DREAMS, MY QUEEN?

TO BE CONTINUED